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**Request  
For  
Continued Examination (RCE)**Address to:  
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Application Number	09/735,151
Filing Date	DECEMBER 12, 2000
First Named Inventor	GERT W. BRUNING
Art Unit	2674
Examiner Name	NGUYEN, H.
Attorney Docket Number	US 000309 (7790/210)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

**1 Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**a. ☐ Previously submittedi. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.118 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Amendment/Replyiii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_**2 Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(j) required)b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_**3 Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1713

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_d. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	FRANK C. NICHOLAS	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	33 983
Signature	<i>Frank C. Nicholas</i>	Date	AUGUST 8, 2003

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below

Name (Print/Type)	FRANK C. NICHOLAS	Date	AUGUST 8, 2003
Signature	<i>Frank C. Nicholas</i>		

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including the gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

if you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2